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TO: LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
STATE CAPITAL, SUITE 506, 210 CAPITAL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CT. 06106

SUBJ: TOXIC EXPOSURE AT THREE QUARTER HOUSE.

I ARRIVED HERE AT RHVH&H IN DECEMBER OF 2008. UPON LOOKING AT THE DIFFERENT OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED TO THE VETERANS, IT BECAME QUITE CLEAR IN MY SPIRIT THIS WAS A PLACE OF HEALING, AND NEW BEGINNINGS IN OUR LIFE, IF WE SO CHOOSE. I STILL FEEL THAT WAY!

PRIOR TO COMING HERE MY LIFE WASN'T IN A PLACE OF TURMOIL, I SIMPLY WAS IN NEED OF A JOB. I RESIGNED FROM THE STATE BACK IN 3/2004, AFTER 20 ½ YEARS WITH DMHAS AS A REHABILITATION COUNSELOR. VOLUNTEER AT THE SALVATION ARMY FOR 2YRS, BEFORE WORKING AS A SHUTTLE BUS DRIVER. I NEEDED HOUSING DUE TO MY NEPHEW & HIS WIFE HOUSE WENT INTO FORECLOSURE. A FRIEND RECOMMENDED RHVH&H AS PLACE TO LIVE, & I APPLIED FOR ADMISSION & WAS ADMITTED. THIS WAS ALSO THE PERIOD OF STILL ADJUSTING TO THE CALL ON MY LIFE AS A MINISTER, & WAS ORDAINED THIS PAST YEAR.

I ASK FOR & RECEIVED A JOB AT THE HEALTHCARE FACILITY HERE ON GROUNDS, & LATER ENTERED INTO EMPLOYMENT AT A GROUP HOME SETTING, AND WORKED THERE FOR 5YRS (2009 - 2014).

UPON LANDING THIS JOB, I FOUND OUT ABOUT THE " STAR PROGRAM ", HERE ON GROUNDS. FOR THIS TURNED FROM A VERY COMFORTABLE MOVE TO ONE OF THE WORST MOVES OF MY LIFE, FOR I ENTERED LIVING QUARTERS THAT WOULD EXPOSE ME & OTHERS TO 2 ½ YEARS OF TOXIC BLACK MOLD. I BECAME AWARE OF

THE PROBLEM WHILE WATCHING A PROGRAM ON EITHER THE HISTORY OR DISCOVERY CHANNEL. THE FOLLOWING MORNING A WORKER WHO WAS ALWAYS CHECKING THE APARTMENT CAME IN AND I ASK IF HE NEW WHAT BLACK MOLD WAS AND HE SAID HE DID, SO I BROUGHT HIM TO THE BATHROOM AND HE TOLD ME THAT, YES BLACK MOLD WAS ON SEILING & WALLS. SO I WENT TO THE THE DOMICILE SUPERVISORS OFFICE TO REPORT IT, & THEY SENT A PAINTER TO PAINT

THE BATHROOM WHICH I BLOCKED, BUT WHILE AT WORK THEY CAME BACK & DID THE JOB. I WENT BACK TO THE OFFICE & WAS ASSURED THAT THE PAINT WOULD REPEL THE MOLD, BUT 2 OR 3 MONTHS LATER THE MOLD WAS BEGINNING TO SHOW THROUGH THE PAINT. THIS WAS WHEN I MOVED OUT AND ALSO INFORMED THE ROOMMATE WHO ALSO LIVING THERE AT THE TIME.

FOR 2 ½ YEARS THE APARTMENT WAS INSPECTED EVERY MONTH (ALL AREAS), & NOT ONE COMMENT WAS MADE ABOUT THE MOLD WAS ADDRESSED, WHY???

THE MEDICAL STAFF HAVE TOLD ME THAT THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH ME, BUT I WOULD LIKE FOR THEM TO SPEND ONE DAY IN MY BODY & TRY TO ACCOMPLISH THERE JOB. I CAN NO LONGER WORK A FULL-TIME JOB OR COLLECT

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BECAUSE OF INHALING THE TOXIC MOLD THAT I AM TOLD THAT I DON'T HAVE.

MY GREATEST DISCOMFORT IS MY FORGETFULLNESS, FATIGUE, HEADACHES, FALLING ASLEEP DURING THE DAY, INABILITY TO PRONOUNCE WORDS CLEARLY OR FUMBLE WORDS, I TRY TO REST AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO HAVE ENERGY TO DO THINGS. THEY HAVE NO IDEA HOW IT FEELS TO BE SO TIRED THAT YOU CAN ONLY FALL UPON THE BED AND NOT EVEN WANT TO MOVE, BUT THEY SAY GO BACK TO WORK AS A COUNSELOR YOUR ALRIGHT.....I' M NOT.


REV. NEAL D. BUTLER